

Message Text

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PAGE 01 THE HA 02827 220050Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15

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R 211529Z MAY 76

FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8226

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS THE HAGUE 2827

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, XG, NL

SUBJ: JENKINS SAYS EC SHOULD BROADEN ITS INFLUENCE

1. SUMMARY: BRITISH HOME SECRETARY ROY JENKINS MADE AN APPEAL IN ROTTERDAM MAY 19 FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY TO BROADEN ITS INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD TO MATCH ITS GROWING WEALTH. HE ALSO SAID THAT ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY IN THE UK IS OVER. END SUMMARY.

2. IN A SPEECH OPENING A BRITISH EXHIBITION IN ROTTERDAM MAY 19 BRITISH HOME SECRETARY ROY JENKINS SAID THAT THE COMMON MARKET HAD INCREASED PROSPERITY AND SECURITY IN THE NINE MEMBER COUNTRIES, BUT THAT "EUROPE HAS NOT YET MATCHED HER WEALTH BY HER INSPIRATION OR HER INFLUENCE IN THE WORLD,
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PAGE 02 THE HA 02827 220050Z

AND A FURTHER ADVANCE TO REPAIR THESE DEFICIENCIES IS

ESSENTIAL".

3. IT WAS ALSO ESSENTIAL JENKINS SAID FOR THE EEC COUNTRIES TO ACCEPT A NEW RESPONSIBILITY IN EUROPE AS A WHOLE SINCE THE RIGID POST WAR DIVISION BETWEEN EAST AND WEST HAS ENDED. "THAT WORLD, WITH CLEARLY DRAWN UP TEAMS OF EAST AND WEST, AND THE WEST OPERATING UNDER FIRM AND INDISPUTABLE AMERICAN CAPTAINCY, IS NO LONGER WITH US. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES A GREATER WEIGHT AND RESPONSIBILITY INEVITABLY FALLS UPON ALL OF US IN WESTERN EUROPE. WE CAN ONLY DISCHARGE IT IN UNITY".

4. JENKINS POINT OUT THAT WHILE BRITAIN HAD LAGGED BEHIND OTHERS OF THE NINE IN ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, "THE LONG PERIOD OF WEAKENING UNCERTAINTY HAS NOW BEEN DECISIVELY RESOLVED". BRITAIN HAD TO STRENGTHEN ITS ECONOMIC BASE, AND THERE WERE ENCOURAGING SIGNS THAT ITS UNACCEPTABLE INFLATION RATE WAS DECLINING RAPIDLY WHILE INVESTMENT AND BUSINESS CONFIDENCE WERE ALSO REVIVING. BUT HE CAUTIONED THAT "FOR INBUILT HISTORIC REASONS, OUR RECOVERY MAY BE SLOWER THAN THAT OF THE REST OF THE COMMUNITY. IT IS HOWEVER ASSISTED BY AND RECEIVES AN IMPULSE FROM THE COMMUNITY'S OVERALL APPROACH TO THE PRESENT WORLD ECONOMIC CRISIS".

5. PRIOR TO HIS SPEECH, JENKINS MET PRIVATELY WITH PRIME MINISTER DEN UYL AND FONS VON DER STOEP AND IS SAID TO HAVE DISCUSSED THE FUTURE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND THE SUCCESSION TO THE COMMISSION PRESIDENCY.
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